



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Chief Financial Officer and**  
**Assistant Secretary for Administration**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

May 2, 2019

Matthew Hoppock  
Dept. MR56132  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144

RE: FOIA request DOC-IOS-2018-001543

Dear Mr. Hoppock:

This letter is in response to your request for information submitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce's (Department's) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office via FOIAonline. According to our records, we received your request on June 18, 2018 and assigned to it tracking number DOC-IOS-2018-001543. We are responding under the FOIA to your request for

“All e-mail messages between Wendy Teramoto and Kris Kobach between 1/20/17 and the date this request is processed.”

For the purposes of your request, since the search commenced on July 6, 2018, records created after July 6, 2018, if any, were not included.

After a search of Agency records, we have identified one hundred five (5) files (9 pages), which we have determined to be responsive to your request and are being released to you under the FOIA. As you will see, certain portions of these records are being withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemptions 6, 5 U.S.C §§552 (b)(6).

FOIA Exemption 6 exempts from disclosure (1) personnel, medical files and similar files, (2) the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). The phrase "similar files" has been broadly defined to include any Government records on an individual, which can be identified as applying to that individual. See Dep't of State v. Washington Post Co., 456 U.S. 595, 601-02 (1982). Thus, we have redacted personal information concerning Department employees. We have determined that in this case, releasing the aforementioned personal privacy information would constitute an “unwarranted invasion of personal privacy” within the meaning of the Exemption 6, and the negligible public interest in learning this information is outweighed by the privacy interests.

I trust that this fully satisfies your request. If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the Department's FOIA Public Liaison:

Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
Deputy Chief Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer  
& Deputy Program Director of Departmental FOIA/Privacy Act Operations  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Office of Privacy and Open Government  
Office: (202) 482-3842  
Email: [chye-michaels@doc.gov](mailto:chye-michaels@doc.gov)

Please refer to your FOIA request tracking number, DOC-IOS-2018-001543, when contacting us.

In addition, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS  
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001  
e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
telephone at 202741-5770; toll free at 1 877-684-6448; facsimile at 202-741-5769

You have the right to appeal this FOIA determination. An appeal must be received within 90 calendar days of the date of this response letter. Address your appeal to the following office:

Assistant General Counsel for Employment, Litigation and Information  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Office of the General Counsel, Room 5896  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

An appeal may also be sent by e-mail to [FOIAAppeals@doc.gov](mailto:FOIAAppeals@doc.gov) or by FOIAonline, if you have an account in FOIAonline, at <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home#>. The appeal should include a copy of the original request and initial denial, if any. All appeals should include a statement of the reasons why you are appealing the determination.

The appeal letter, the envelope, and the e-mail subject line should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." The e-mail, FOIAonline, and office mail are monitored only on working days during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday). FOIA appeals posted to the e-mail box,

FOIAonline, or the office after normal business hours will be deemed received on the next normal business day. If the 90th calendar day for submitting an appeal falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal public holiday, an appeal received by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, the next business day will be deemed timely.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Sincerely,

Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
Deputy Chief Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/PA Officer  
Office of Privacy and Open Government

Enclosures:

1. FOIAonline Record Access Instructions
2. Release – none

## FOIAonline Record Access Instructions

1. Go to <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home> and select the “Search FOIA Request” button located on the right side of the page; you may also click on the “Search” tab at the top of the page.
2. Enter the search term, in this case enter “DOC-OS-2018-000516” in the “Search for:” field located within the “Search Criteria” box.
  - a. Note – The “Type” checkboxes are self-populated. Uncheck the “Appeal”, “Record (Full-Text),” and “Referral” checkboxes.
  - b. Highlight “U.S. Department of Commerce” located in the “Agency” drop-down menu.
  - c. Select and click on the “Search” button.
3. The results of the search term will appear once the “Search” button is selected.
4. Click on the “Tracking Number” for example, DOC-OS-2018-000516 located in the first column of the search results. This will take you to the next screen titled “Record Details.”
5. On the “Record Details” screen:
  - a. Click on the “**DOWNLOAD ALL**” button to save the file(s) to save the file(s) to a location of your choice, or
  - b. Select the file(s) you wish to save and click on the “**DOWNLOAD SELECTED**” button to save the files to a location of your choice.